

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 SAJ-01 SAB-01 /073 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:WKRIEBEL/DD

APPROVED BY IO:ROBLAKE

AF/W:JBISHOP

EA/K:FMISCH

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R 042004Z NOV 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 260881

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, KS, KN

SUBJECT: LIBERIAN VOTE ON KOREA AT 30TH UNGA

REF: STATE 259571

FOR THE AMBASSADOR

1. LIBERIA BECAME A COSPONSOR OF OUR RESOLUTION AFTER THE INTRODUCTION OF THE FRENCH AMENDMENTS, VOTED FOR THE RESOLUTION AND SUPPORTED US ON THE PRIORITY ISSUE. IT ABSTAINED ON THE ALGERIAN RESOLUTION RATHER THAN VOTING AGAINST IT. REQUEST AMBASSADOR APPROACH GOL AT APPROPRIATE LEVEL AND SEEK EXPLANATION FOR ABSTENTION.

NOTE: WHILE GOL NEVER EXPLICITLY PROMISED US IT WOULD VOTE AGAINST ALGERIAN RESOLUTION, WE HAD EVERY REASON TO EXPECT IT WOULD CAST A NEGATIVE VOTE.

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2. WHILE THE GOL SHOULD BE CLEARLY AWARE OF OUR DISAPPOINTMENT WITH ITS VOTE ON THE ALGERIAN RESOLUTION, EMPHASIS OF REPRESENTATION SHOULD BE TO SEEK RECONSIDERATION OF ITS VOTE IN THE PLENARY TO OBTAIN A NEGATIVE VOTE ON THE ALGERIAN RESOLUTION. YOU SHOULD INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. WE WELCOME LIBERIA'S COSPONSORSHIP OF OUR RESOLUTION AND ITS SUPPORT FOR IT. THE LARGE AFFIRMATIVE VOTE (59) SHOWED THAT A LARGE NUMBER OF UN MEMBERS BELIEVE THAT WE HAD OFFERED A REALISTIC AND CONSTRUCTIVE APPROACH ON THE KOREAN ISSUE. THE PASSAGE OF THE ALGERIAN RESOLUTION MEANS THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IS NOW SPEAKING WITH A CONFUSED VOICE ON THIS ISSUE.

B. CONSIDERING THE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO THE KOREAN ISSUE, IT IS HARD TO UNDERSTAND HOW THE GOVERNMENT OF LIBERIA COULD CHANGE ITS POSITION ON THIS MATTER WITHOUT INFORMING US. THE HOSTILE RESOLUTION WAS AIMED DIRECTLY AT THE UNITED STATES AND AT WEAKENING THE ROK POSITION BOTH AT HOME AND ABROAD.

C. THE PASSAGE OF THE RESOLUTION IS MORE DISAPPOINTING SINCE THE MARGIN OF PASSAGE (13 VOTES) COULD HAVE BEEN MUCH LESS IF STATES SUCH AS LIBERIA HAD STAYED WITH US. THE NORTH KOREANS ARE NOW EXERTING GREAT PRESSURE NOT ONLY TO RETAIN THEIR VOTING MARGIN BUT TO FURTHER ERODE THE MARGIN FOR OUR RESOLUTION.

D. WE COUNT ON CONTINUED SUPPORT FROM LIBERIA FOR OUR RESOLUTION IN PLENARY AND REQUEST IT TO RECONSIDER ITS VOTE ON THE ALGERIAN RESOLUTION AND VOTE AGAINST IT IN THE PLENARY SESSION. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TERRITORIAL REVERSION, VOTING, UNGA RESOLUTIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, POLITICAL PATRONAGE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE260881
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WKRIEBEL/DD
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750383-0701
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751179/aaaactgi.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 259571
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 JUL 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <10 NOV 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LIBERIAN VOTE ON KOREA AT 30TH UNGA
TAGS: PFOR, KS, KN, UNGA
To: MONROVIA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006